

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03  
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06  
TRSE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01 DODE-00 /073 W  
-----191650Z 010061 /46

P R 191551Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9612

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

USCINCEUR

CINCLANT

USNMR SHAPE

USOCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 03860

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, NATO, BE

SUBJECT: NATO INFRASTRUCTURE AUGMENTATION

REF: STATE 84815

1. WE MADE PRESENTATION REQUESTED REFTEL TO FOREIGN MINISTRY  
ACTING CHIEF OF NATO AFFAIRS LAGNEAUX ON APRIL 19.

2. LAGNEAUX, WHO WAS FULLY CONVERSANT WITH INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUE TOLD  
US THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS IN PRINCIPLE IN FAVOR OF HAVING BELGIAN  
GOVERNMENT MAKE FIRM COMMITMENT, BUT THAT FUNDS WOULD HAVE TO COME  
EITHER OUT OF PRESENT BELGIAN DEFENSE BUDGET OR FROM NEW FUNDS WHICH  
WOULD REQUIRE APPROVAL OF FULL GOVERNMENT. LAGNEAUX SAID THAT FOREIGN  
MINISTRY'S POSITION ON NATO INFRASTRUCTURE AUGMENTATION WAS THE SAME  
AS IT WAS TOWARD AWACS OR HAWK. THE MINISTRY'S POSITION IN FAVOR OF  
THESE NATO PROJECTS HAS REPEATEDLY BEEN COMMUNICATED TO THE  
MINISTRY OF DEFENSE.

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3. THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, HOWEVER, IS FACED WITH THE PROBLEM  
OF HOW TO APPORTION THE FUNDS AVAILABLE TO AMONG THE VARIOUS  
PROJECTS WHICH REQUIRE FUNDING. IT DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH TO GO AROUND,  
AND IN FACT, THE MOD HAS HAD TO POSTPONE SOME PROJECTS IT HAD  
PREVIOUSLY PLANNED - NEW RADIOS FOR INFANTRY UNITS WAS CITED  
AS AN EXAMPLE.

4. THE MOD HAS TOLD THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT IT NEEDS SOME INDICATION FROM NATO OF WHAT PRIORITY TO GIVE TO THE VARIOUS NATO-SPONSORED PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDER DISCUSSION. THE MOD WOULD SPECIFICALLY LIKE TO KNOW THE RELATIVE PRIORITIES OF AWACS, HAWK AND THE NATO INFRASTRUCTURE AUGMENTATION. WITH THAT INFORMATION IN HAND, LAGNEAUX IMPLIED, THE MOD WOULD BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO DECIDE WHETHER, HOW AND WHEN TO REQUEST ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT.

5. THIS INFORMATION ON BELGIAN INTENTIONS IS CONSISTENT WITH THE FIRST SENTENCE IN PARA 1 OF REFTEL.RENNER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY BUDGET, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
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